WC 08-17

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#### BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

FILF " " "EPTED

JAN : 0 2008 Federal Commission

Office of the Secretary

In the Matter of the Section 63.71 Application: of Remi Retail Communications, LLC for Authority Pursuant to Section 214 to the : Communications Act to Discontinue the :

File No.

FILED/ACCEPTED JAN 3 0 2008

Provision of Interexchange Service in: Pennsylvania

> Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary

## SECTION 63.71 APPLICATION

Remi Retail Communications, LLC ("Remi") seeks authorization pursuant to Section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214(a), and Section 63.71 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue its provision of interexchange telecommunications service to customers in Pennsylvania. In support of this Application, Remi provides the following information:

#### I. REASON FOR ABANDONMENT

On December 28, 2007, Remi received notice from its underlying network service providers Verizon Services Corp., Verizon North, Inc., and Verizon of Pennsylvania, Inc. (collectively "Verizon") that pursuant to Pennsylvania Regulations, 52 Pa. Code § 63.304(d), it will terminate wholesale services provided to Remi on or after February 19, 2008. As Remi utilizes Verizon as its sole underlying network service provider ("NSP") for all Pennsylvania local service customers through a variety of UNE-P, UNE-L, resale and access service arrangements, termination of these services prevents Remi from continuing to provide service to its current 351 business customers in Pennsylvania. Upon receipt of Verizon's notice to Remi (and prior to the formal notice), Remi had been attempting to engage in negotiations with Verizon to prevent the discontinuance of service. However, these attempts were unsuccessful

and, according to Pennsylvania Commission requirements, Remi was required to file an Application to Abandon Service and Abandonment Plan. 52 Pa. Code § 63.301 et. seq. Remi filed its Application to Abandon Service and Abandonment Plan with the Pennsylvania Commission on January 18, 2008. Subsequent to the filing of the plan, Remi continued to attempt to make arrangements to secure an acquiring carrier for its customers. While these efforts at one point appeared as though they would be successful, they were not. Consequently, the Pennsylvania Commission required Remi to comply with Pennsylvania requirements and send its customers a discontinuance notice. The notice was sent on January 25, 2008 and notified customers that their service would be terminated effective February 25, 2008.

Due to the manner in which Remi has been forced to discontinue service and the Pennsylvania regulatory requirements involved, Remi was required to specify February 25, 2008 as its planned discontinuance date and provide notice, as approved by the Pennsylvania Commission, to its customers.

### II. <u>INFORMATION REQUIRED BY 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a)(1) - (a)(4)</u>

#### 1. Name and Address of Carrier

Remi Communications 138 South Main St. Greensburg, PA 15601 Phone: (724) 836-5800

#### 2. Date of Planned Discontinuance

As noted above, Remi has provided notice to its customers that their service will be terminated effective February 25, 2008 and expects that its 351 institutional and commercial customers in Pennsylvania will be migrated to other service providers by that time. Remi does

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not have any residential service customers. Remi will continue to provide service to all affected customers until the exit date or the date on which Verizon terminates service to Remi.

#### 3. Points of Geographic Areas of Service Affected

Remi currently provides local exchange service, interexchange service and toll-free service throughout Pennsylvania. Remi is following the appropriate state law for discontinuance of the applicable service in the Commonwealth and is assisting affected customers during their transition to new carriers.

### 4. Description of Type of Service Affected

Remi seeks authority to discontinue its service in Pennsylvania.

#### III. NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS

In accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a), Remi has notified all affected customers of the planned discontinuance of its telephone services. Specifically, Remi sent letters via first class U.S. Mail to each of the affected customers on January 25, 2008. A copy of this notice is attached hereto as Exhibit 1. The notice complied with Pennsylvania regulatory requirements and was approved by Pennsylvania Commission staff prior to issuance. While this notice failed to include the statement as required by 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(5)(i), Remi will be required by Pennsylvania regulations to send a second abandonment notice to customers who have failed to migrate. 52 Pa. Code § 63.310(b). This second notice will need to be approved by the Pennsylvania Commission and could include the notice required by 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(5)(i). Additionally, Remi has established a toll-free customer service number to assist customers with the transition.

# IV. NOTICE TO CUSTOMERS

In accordance with 47 C.F.R. § 63.71(a), Remi has mailed a copy of this Application to the Governor of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, and the Secretary of Defense.

# III. NON-DOMINANT STATUS

Remi is a non-dominant carrier in the local exchange, interstate, and interexchange services markets.

### IV. <u>DESIGNATED CONTACTS</u>

Correspondence concerning this Application should be directed to:

Alan Kohler, Esq.
Deanne M. O'Dell, Esq.
Wolf, Block, Schorr & Solis-Cohen, LLC
213 Market Street, 9th Floor
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17108-0865
(717) 237-7160 (phone)
(717) 237-7161 (fax)
akohler@wolfblock.com / dodell@wolfblock.com

### V. CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated above, Remi requests that the Commission grant this Application authorize it to discontinue service in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on or after February 25, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Kohler, Esq. Deanne O'Dell, Esq.

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Wolf, Block, Schorr and Solis-Cohen LLP

213 Market Street, 9th Floor

P.O. Box 865

Harrisburg, PA 17108-0865

Dated: January 30, 2008 Counsel for Remi Retail Communications, LLC

# Exhibit 1 Customer Notification Letter



# IMPORTANT NOTICE, LOSS OF TELEPHONE SERVICE

Dear Customer:

AT THIS TIME, REMI RETAIL COMMUNICATIONS, LLC ("REMI") PROVIDES YOU WITH LOCAL TELEPHONE SERVICES, LONG DISTANCE TOLL SERVICES, AND TOLL-FREE SERVICE. AS OF FEBRUARY 25, 2008, REMI WILL NO LONGER PROVIDE YOUR TELEPHONE SERVICES AND YOU MUST TAKE ACTION.

What action do you need to take?

To prevent the loss of telephone service, you must select another local telephone service provider on or before February 15, 2008. If you act by this date there will be enough time for the new local service provider you choose to start your new service before your current service end.

Please remember that customers may choose the provider of their local telephone service. You may select any company that is offering service in your area. To find a new local service provider, you may consult your telephone directory yellow pages under "telephone service providers" or in the front of your directory under the heading of "other local phone companies."

How will this affect your billing and future service?

All customer deposits will be refunded via bill credits issued on final customer invoices. Where final customer invoices result in credit balances, Remi will issue refund checks to those credit balance customers within 15 days after the final bill is rendered.

If you currently have a preferred carrier freeze on your account, and wish to retain this protection in the future, you will need to contact your new local service provider to arrange to have the preferred carrier freeze placed on your account going forward.

This is an important notice about the loss of your local telephone service. If you have any questions, need more information or have problems with changing your services, please contact Remi at (800) 510-7364.

We have enjoyed doing business with you and apologize for the inconvenience caused by this abandonment of service.

Sincerely, Remi Retail Communications, LLC.

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that this day I served a copy of the foregoing document upon the persons listed below in the manner indicated in accordance with the requirements of 47 C.F.R.

# **VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL**

§ 63.71(a).

Hon. Edward G. Rendell Governor of Pennsylvania 225 Main Capitol Bldg. Harrisburg, PA 17120

James McNulty, Secretary (PUC Docket No. A-311156) PA Public Utility Commission PO Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Secretary of Defense
Attn: Special Assistant for Telecommunications
Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Date: January 30, 2008

Deanne M. O'Dell, Esq.